

No. 2.62

GUN ~ ~ TALK



• QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF •
SASKATCHEWAN GUN
• COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION •

SASKATCHEWAN GUN COLLECTORS' ASSOCIATION INC.

Founded 1961
Incorporated 1962.

A patriotic, educational and non-profit organization of Canadian citizens, dedicated to the collection of firearms and research into their history. Membership in the S.G.C.A. is open to any reputable person.

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GUN TALK is published quarterly by the
S.G.C.A. for the benefit of its members.
Dues are \$2.00 per year payable each Jan-
uary to the Secretary-Treasurer.

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MEMBERS:-50¢ for 50 words - min. 50¢; extra words .02¢ each.

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\$12.00 per page; \$8.00 per ½ page; \$5.00 per ¼ page.

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EDITORIAL

Normally it is the practice of new editors to speak in glowing terms of their predecessor but in the case of Roger Phillips that is not necessary. It is also the practice to tell of what the new editor hopes to do. However, in this case we will dispense with all this and just quote a letter that has been sent to the leaders of all the major political parties.

"Sir,

I have been instructed to write to you by the executive committee of the Saskatchewan Gun Collectors' Association Inc., as well as to the leaders of the other major political parties. In case you may not be aware of it, the S. G. C. A. is an incorporate body of gun collectors from all walks of life and whose members represent a good cross section of Canadian social life. The association has members in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon. A quarterly journal, GUN TALK, is published by the Association and we would like to have your views on the following questions for publication in our next issue, which is due in the members hands by June 15, 1962.

- Question #1. Are you in favour of further restrictive fire-arms legislation and do you think it necessary?
- Question #2. Do you think that shoulder arms (rifles & shot-guns) should be included in the Criminal Code along with handguns?
- Question #3. Is any legislation in the field of firearms contemplated by you or your party? If so, what?
- Question #4. Do you or your party believe in the private ownership of arms for collecting, hunting and target shooting by the AVERAGE private citizen?

These questions are being asked because members understand that further restrictive firearms legislation is in the offing. While they do not favour the unrestrictive flow of firearms into the hands of juveniles and criminals and are in favour of handgun registration, it is felt that the registration of shoulder arms would impose too great a burden on the police, without being of any practical value. The criminal element is not deterred by a \$50.00 fine or 3 months imprisonment if he intends to kill or hold up a bank. Capital punishment has not deterred murder. So the question arises, "Why punish the gun by assigning it to oblivion?" Legislation does not punish the automobile nor will progress do away with it because of its high death rate, rather the motorist is punished. In view of this the Association would beg leave to humbly recommend, if further legislation is contemplated, that when crimes (coming under the Criminal Code of Canada) are committed and a firearm is involved, the minimum and maximum penalties be automatically doubled or trebled. In this manner the average gun owning citizen will not be needlessly harried by bothersome regulations.

A further point of interest arises by having an armed citizenry and that is their usefulness in any future war, which God forbid.

If in the vast and lonely areas of this great country an enemy were to drop or land saboteurs (a platoon or section of infantry) these could be contained to a greater or lesser degree by the local people if they were armed. While they might not be a match for a large enemy group an armed and determined citizenry could decrease the effectiveness of their operations until proper military support could be rushed to that area. This country could never be then placed in the position of the United Kingdom during World War II.

We await any comments you may care to make. Could we please have a reply by the end of this month so that we may include them in the June issue of GUN TALK.

Thanking you etc., etc., etc.

REPLY FROM L. B. PEARSON, May 22, 1962.

Thank you for your inquiry. In general, the viewpoint you express seems to me to deserve sympathy.

But, to all the specific questions you ask, I must return an indefinite answer. These are fairly technical matters. There is no established party viewpoint about them. All I can say, in honesty and in fairness, is that in office we would do our best to take good advice and, if changes are required, make sensible changes in the law.

With kindest regards,
Yours sincerely,
L. B. PEARSON (Sgd.)

REPLY FROM THE SOCIAL CREDIT ASSOC. OF CANADA, May 23, 1962.

Thank you for your letter of May 13th.

The Social Credit party has no present plans for legislation to restrict further the use of firearms in Canada.

As you know, we are a party that believe strongly in individual enterprise rather than state control, and we feel it is far more satisfactory to have organizations such as your own, teaching the citizens to use firearms with intelligence and safety, rather than have stringent laws banning their use entirely.

In reply to your questions then:

1. We do not at the present time think further restrictive firearms legislation is necessary.

2. We are looking into the matter of shoulder arms registration and are not prepared to make a statement one way or another on this subject at the moment.

3. We do not contemplate any legislation in the field of firearms at the present time.

4. Our basic philosophy on individual action is that the individual should be allowed to do whatever he wishes, providing he

is not causing danger or annoyance to other members of the public. Our attitude towards private ownership of guns is precisely along these lines.

We might also add that our defence policy contemplates building up fairly strong conventionally armed reserve forces and providing training for these, particularly for such groups as students in universities. We feel that a basic military knowledge of this nature is invaluable in the defence policies of the country.

Yours truly,
THE SOCIAL CREDIT ASSOCIATION OF CANADA,
J. Martin Hattersley (Sgd.)
Personal Secretary to
National Leader.

REPLY FROM THE PROGRESSIVE-CONSERVATIVE PARTY, May 25, 1962.

The Prime Minister prior to his departure from Ottawa asked me to acknowledge your letter of May 13th seeking answers to several questions pertaining to firearms.

Mr. Diefenbaker, as you know, is at present touring the country on his election campaign and will not be in a position to reply to your queries in time for your publication deadline. However, at his direction, your representations have been referred to his colleague the Minister of Justice.

Yours sincerely,
Claude Gauthier (Sgd.)
Secretary.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

SUNDAY JUNE 17

MUZZLE LOADING SHOOT AT MOOSE JAW

SUNDAY AUGUST 19

GUN SHOW AT REGINA

Ottawa 4, June 1, 1962.

185300-82-1

Dear Mr. Kirby:

In the absence of the Minister of Justice I am directed to reply to your letter of May 13, 1962, addressed to the Prime Minister, on the subject of firearms. This letter was referred to this department by the Secretary to the Prime Minister, as promised in the Secretary's acknowledgment to you of May 25, 1962.

The sections of the Criminal Code relating to firearms have been under review in the Department of Justice for some time, as a part of the continuing Criminal Law Amendment program. This study is the result of representations that have been received from time to time in the past from various law enforcement authorities. The aspects which are chiefly the subject of the study are those relating to the protection of the public against the misuse of pistols and revolvers and those relating to the use of firearms by minors. This study does not involve any proposal for the registration of rifles or shotguns.

While the foregoing does not answer your questions directly, I believe it has considerable bearing upon them and upon your reasons for writing.

With reference to your recommendation that when an offence is committed, and a firearm is involved, the penalty should be increased, I may mention that several sections of the Criminal Code already attach added significance to the possession of a firearm in the course of committing an offence. Section 292, for example, provides that every person who is convicted of breaking and entering with intent to commit an indictable offence, who has upon his person an offensive weapon, is liable to be whipped in addition to any other punishment. Section 216 relates to the offence of discharging a firearm with intent to wound etc. Section 288 deals expressly with the offence of stealing from a person while armed with an offensive weapon and section 202 provides in effect that if a person uses a weapon or has it on his person while committing certain crimes of violence, or during flight thereafter, and death ensues as a consequence, such person is guilty of murder whether death was actually intended or not.

I am also to let you know that the views you have expressed on the general subject of firearms, and any additional views you may care to put forward, will be carefully considered in connection with the study above mentioned.

Yours truly,

T. D. MacDonald, (Sgd.)
Assistant Deputy Minister.

NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

NEW MEMBER LIST AS OF JUNE 4th, 1962. THIS LIST
CONTAINS NEW MEMBERS AND RENEWALS RECEIVED TOO
LATE FOR LISTING IN THE LAST "GUN TALK"

A. Ellis, 1111 - 4th N.W., Moose Jaw, Sask.
J. Lowe, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask.
G. Brownridge, 2145 Arthur St., Ft. William, Ont.
W. Drumheller, Box 10, Makwa, Sask.
G. Eddy, Aneroid, Sask.
A. Lever, 761 Dunsmuir St., Vancouver 1, B.C.
G. McKee, 1332 Main St., Saskatoon, Sask.
H. Thompson, Box 129, Shaunavon, Sask.
R. White, 316 Laidlaw Blvd., Tuxedo, Man.
D. Elmer, Box 124, Weyburn, Sask.
J. Blum, Yarbo, Sask.
V. Charnetski, Box 13, Prelate, Sask.
W. Fordham, 605 Lillooet St. W., Moose Jaw, Sask.
E. Love, 325 Ave. X North, Saskatoon, Sask.
G. Black, 224 Wellington St. Ottawa, Ontario.
A. Monson, Box 83, Viceroy, Sask.
D. VanPatten, Box 148, Kuroki, Sask.
J. Wohlgenuth, North of Vaughn, Vaughn, Montana, U.S.A.
W. Kozoriz, Canora, Sask.
D. Tonlinson, Officers Mess, R.C.A.F. Stn. Comox, B.C.
M. Bailey, Box 275, Indian Head, Sask.
L. Green, Box 127, Lumsden, Sask.
B. Mang, Box 730, Melville, Sask.
J. Nichol, 124 Garnet Street, Regina, Sask.
J. Willis c/o R.C.M.P., Brandon, Man.
B. Frost, box 156, Nipawin, Sask.
G. Siebel, Box 338 Whitewood, Sask.
M. Kitchen, c/o Dept. of Trans. Airport, Snag, Yukon.

J. Sabol, c/o R.C.M.P. Yorkton, Sask.
J. Thompson, Corinne, Sask.
J. McCracken, Box 128, Oyen, Alta.
L. Smuk, 311 Hamilton St. N., Regina, Sask.
C. Peeling, General Del., Saskatoon, Sask.
B. Dobrescu, 650 McDonald St., Moose Jaw, Sask.
E. Prebble, Loon Lake, Sask.
R. Manavery, 11606 - 72nd St. Edmonton, Alta.
I. Schmidt, Box 300, Eastend, Sask.
A. Zabos, 531 - 104th St., North Battleford, Sask.
C. Jones, Wadena, Sask.
R. Currie, 1171 Redland Ave., Moose Jaw, Sask.
G. Harrower, Climax, Sask.
H. Andrew, Box 282, Hamiota, Manitoba.
C. Ursel, 72 Braemar Ave., St. Boniface 6, Manitoba.
S. Scholefield, 940 Elliott St., Regina, Sask.
G. O'Connon, 60 N. Lake Drive, Butte, Montana, U.S.A.
D. Boll, Congress, Sask.
J. Hart, 1512 Chatelain Ave., Ottawa 3, Ontario.
R. Cantin, 737 Argyle St., Regina, Sask.
Aco Services Ltd., 616 Main N., Moose Jaw, Sask.
S. Dobson, Lumsden, Sask.
E. Graham, 118 Lansing St., Moose Jaw, Sask.
V. Podborski, c/o R.C.M.P., Clearwater B.C.
K. Mayhew, 68 Pine Glen, R.R. 2, Ottawa, Ontario.
W. Long, 7 Valens Dr., Saskatoon, Sask.
G. Altman, 281 Balcon Ave., Bronx 65, New York City, U.S.A.

THIS MAKES A TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY EIGHT MEMBERS TO DATE. WE STILL NEED FIFTY TWO TO MAKE
UP OUR GOAL OF TWO HUNDRED MEMBERS FOR 1962.

WE SENT APPLICATION FORMS OUT WITH THE LAST NEWSLETTER. SOME OF YOU HAVE NOT PASSED THIS ON TO
YOUR FRIENDS. WE NEED EVERY COLLECTOR AND MEMBER OF THIS ASSOCIATION TO SIGN UP AT LEAST ONE NEW MEMBER.
IF YOU REQUIRE MORE APPLICATION FORMS LET F. OSIPOFF KNOW AND THEY WILL BE SENT OUT.

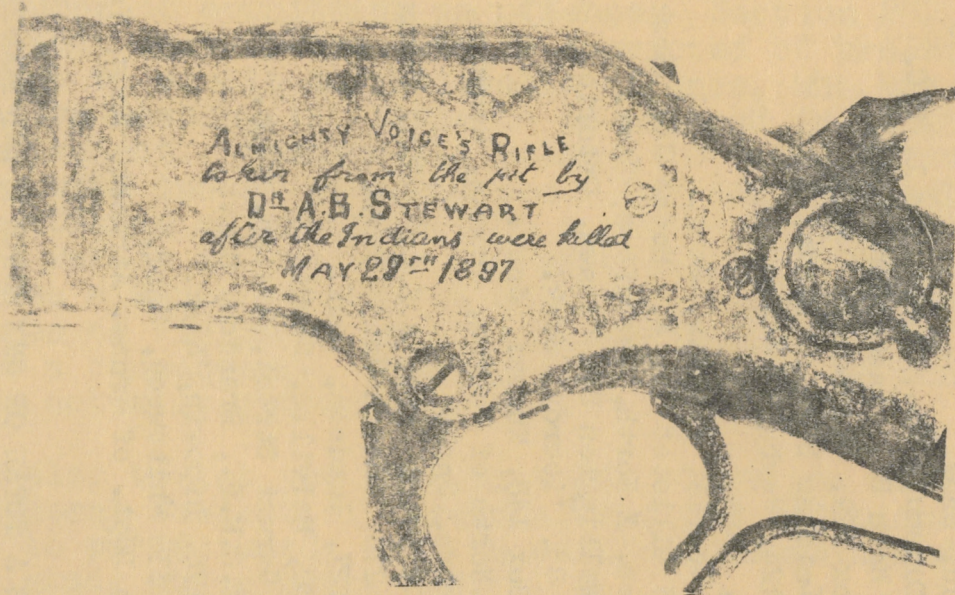
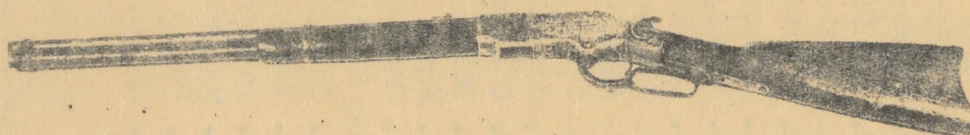
YOU WILL NOTE THAT WE ARE CONTINUING OUR POLICY OF LISTING THE FULL MEMBERSHIP LIST ONLY ONCE A YEAR. NEW
MEMBERS WILL BE LISTED EACH ISSUE. THE COMPLETE LIST WILL BE PUT OUT IN OUR ISSUE OF "GUN TALK".

ALMIGHTY VOICE'S RIFLE

by Fred Osipoff

One of the best things about a gun show is table browsing. At the winter show in Saskatoon I was looking over the tables and George Kuttai's table in particular. George and I had a deal going and I was looking over trading stock. On his table was an exceptional rough 1866 Winchester carbine. I picked it up and looked same over. Aside from the poor condition I noticed one other thing. On the left hand side of the frame was engraved the following:

Almighty Voice's Rifle
Taken from the pit by
Dr. A.B. Stewart
after the Indians were killed
May 29th, 1897



Needless to say, I attempted to make a deal but I could not do so. George was just not parting with that rifle. I was intrigued with Almighty Voice and wondered who he was. I asked around the show and when I got home I immediately started inquiries. I came up with a tale that strikes me as being one of the best about the Canadian West. The only thing that amazes me is why you do not hear more of it. To my scant knowledge the only renegade

that you hear of is Louis Riel and about a million bad men from south of the border. I will first describe the rifle, and then go on with the story of Almighty Voice.

The Rifle: A well rusted 1866 Winchester saddle ring carbine, serial No. 153673. Screws are missing, and a bolt is through the tang. No tacks or nails on this one. The rifle cannot have been this bad when Almighty Voice was using it, so it must have seen neglect after his death.

The story: Almighty Voice was a member of One Arrow's band of Crees who lived east of Batoche on the South Saskatchewan River. The reserve was the One Arrow Indian Reserve. Apparently Almighty Voice was an amorous young buck and hard to control. History states that at the age of 16 he took Napair's daughter who was 13, kept her one summer and discarded her in favour of a girl belonging to Kapakoo. He paid a small calf for Kapakoo's girl and she also only lasted a summer. He then switched to the Rump's girl. After discarding the Rump's girl he went to Fort a la Corne and bought the grand daughter of Old Dust. For her he paid a steer stolen from the Indian Department.

Needless to say, Almighty Voice was well on the road to being the most unpopular man on the One Arrow Reserve. On October 22, 1895, he came in to collect his annuity and was promptly arrested by Sgt. C. C. Colebrook for stealing a cow and was taken to the Duck Lake lock-up.

The next morning Almighty Voice escaped from the Duck Lake cells and was pursued by Sgt. Colebrook. Colebrook finally caught up with Almighty Voice on the morning of October 29th. Almighty Voice was cornered and he said he would shoot Colebrook if he attempted to take him in. Colebrook raised his right hand and was shot in the heart.

A reward of \$500.00 was posted for his capture and Almighty Voice disappeared for about two years. During this two years he trapped with a band of Wood Crees from the north and would stay at his home on the One Arrow Reserve. Apparently his family had made a dugout beneath the cabin and when the law came to check for him, he would hide in this cellar. His mother would pull her bed over the trap door and sit on the bed, covering any sign of the door beneath her skirt. Almighty Voice's father, John Sounding Sky, had been taken to Prince Albert following the killing of Colebrook and was kept in the cells.

Apparently he was there for security reasons only, and was allowed to do odd jobs, such as driving the manure wagon to the dump. On one of these trips Almighty Voice spoke to his father and was advised to stay in hiding, and if he did not heed this advice, to make his own decisions as he was a grown man.

Almighty Voice made his own decision. He teamed up with his cousin Standing in the Sky, and his brother-in-law Tupean. These three then engaged in the career of cattle rustling. On May 26, 1897 the trio was seen taking cattle from the Indian Department stock. Cpl. Bowridge and an Indian Scout, Venne, gave chase to Almighty Voice. They caught up with Almighty Voice and his companions and

when Venne got too close he was shot three times.

Again, Almighty Voice made good his escape. Inspector J. Allan from Prince Albert took Sgt. Raven and eleven men from the R.N.W.M.P. and ran Almighty Voice to the ground on a small poplar bluff. Almighty Voice was cornered on this bluff. Inspector Allan had a choice; to charge the bluff, or let Almighty Voice escape under cover of darkness. Allan chose to rush the bluff.

At this time Almighty Voice and his companions had taken refuge in a pit on the bluff. When Allan and his men advanced Allan was shot in the arm and Raven was shot in the groin. The party retreated. Command then fell on Cpl. Hockin. The corporal was faced with the same choices that befell his superior.

Hockin decided to again rush the pit. The party advanced, more warily than before and the bluff was circled several times. Then the Indians opened up. Grundy, a volunteer was killed, shot through the abdomen. Cpl. Hockin was next, and he was carried out to die a short time later. Two men, Constables Kerr and O'Kelly then rushed the pit and Kerr went down, shot through the heart.

During the above time, Dr. Stewart came to the scene and attended to the wounded. Little is mentioned of the good doctors in this epic, but with the action as it was, he must have played a gallant part.

It should be noted that the bluff that Almighty Voice and his outlaws were cornered in was approximately 150 yards long and 50 yards wide.

Needless to say, this action caused a stir amongst the R.N.W.M.P. and reinforcements were immediately sent for. A crowd of spectators gathered on the scene, including Almighty Voice's mother. Commissioner Herchmer in Regina dispatched Asst. Commr. McIllree and Insp. MacDonnel and 24 men from Regina. This party also took a 9 lb. field gun. The troop left Regina at 10:30 a.m. May 29th on a special C.P.R. train and arrived at Duck Lake at 4:50 p.m. They left immediately for the action and arrived at 10:00 p.m. at the scene. The distance was some 17 miles from Duck Lake. Now the scene looked like an army camp with Supt. Gagnon and eight more men arriving and a force of special constables from Prince Albert at the scene with a 7 lb. cannon.

The two cannons were brought into action and the shelling of the bluff took place. The light was fading and the bluff was pounded with shrapnell, grape, and canister shot. With the bombardment over, the party again advanced. In the pit on the bluff, Almighty Voice lay dead. His two companions also lay dead. One shot in the forehead and the other in the back. These two were apparently shot by Almighty Voice attempting to surrender.

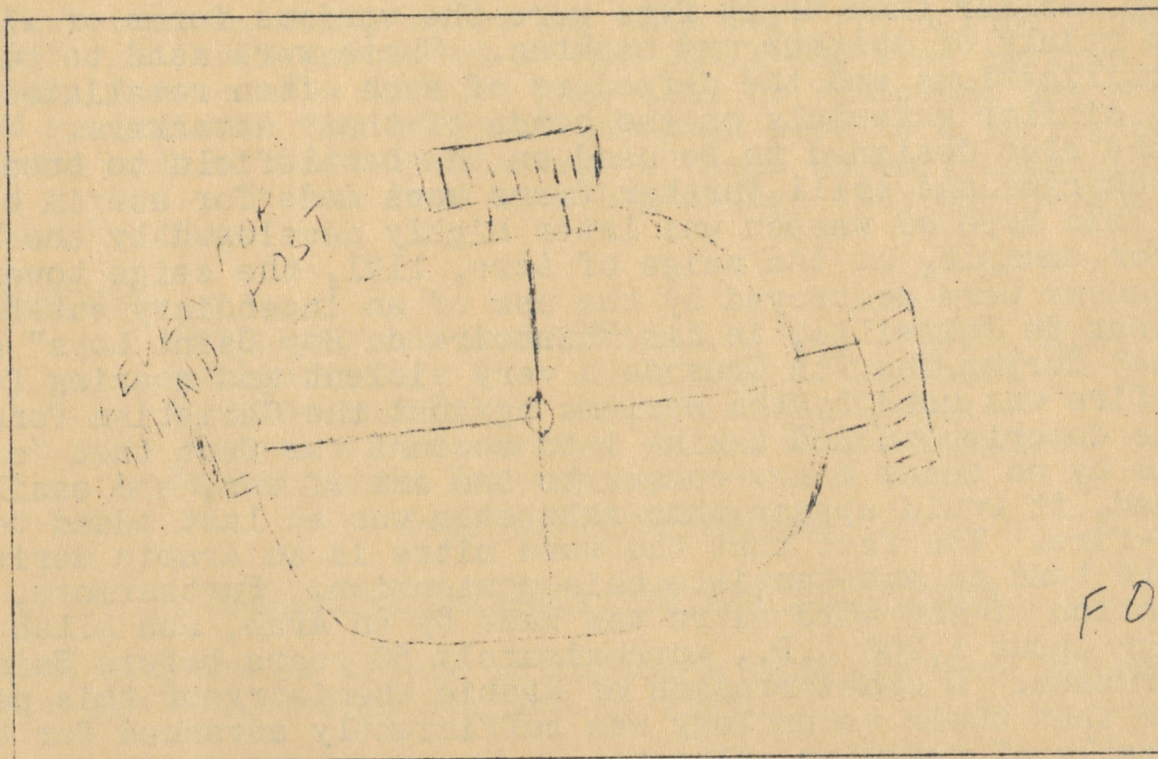
Without food or water Almighty Voice had stood of a much stronger force for more than a day, only to be killed by a bombardment of cannon. Dr. Stewart was one of the first at the pit and pronounced the Indians dead.

So ended the career of Almighty Voice, seven men dead, three wounded. Almighty Voice and his companions were buried in a common grave on the One Arrow Reserve, and the place marked with a plain cross. The graves of Sgt. Colebrook, Cpl. Hockin and Constable Kerr, are in the cemetary of the old St. Mary's church near Prince Albert, and may be seen at that location.

So ends the last of the Indian battles and a tale that ranks with the best. A lone Indian with his rifle defying the laws and standing alone against great odds. One cannot admire him for his deeds, but his courage must rank among the most courageous battles ever fought.

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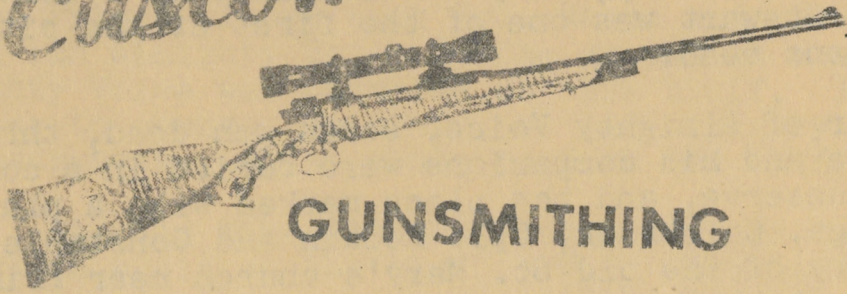
I'D LIKE TO SEE THEM MAKE



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NEW AND USED GUNS FOR SALE OR TRADE

THE BEGINNING OF GUN POWDER AND GUNS

by S. J. Kirby

Second of
Two Parts

Even earlier than Greek fire were the various forms of wild-fire, composed mainly of sulphur and naphtha. These were used to burn down fortifications and the defenders of such often retaliated by dropping similar materials on the heads of their attackers. Wild-fires were also designed to be used on the battlefield to break up cavalry charges and still further forms were made for use in ballistae. This type of weapon was later highly developed by the Moslems. For example, at the seige of Acre, 1191, the seige towers of the Crusaders were destroyed by the use of an incendiary substance. Jean, Dieur de Joinville, in his "Histoire du Roy Saint Loys" mentions that during the 7th Crusade a very violent and roaring form of wild-fire was used by the Moslems against the Christian forces. From this description and taking into account the fact that Joinville was by no means a new-commer to the art of war, and easily frightened, it would appear that saltpeter was at last added to the wild-fire. The fact that the word nitre is an Arabic derivative would tend to substantiate this contention. Furthermore, the first mention of the word nitre was made by an Arab, Abd Allah ibn-al-Baythar about 1,200 A.D., approximately 50 years before Saint Louis' Crusade. A consideration of Arabic chemistry of this period indicates that their technology was sufficiently advanced for them to be capable of refining saltpeter.

The returning Crusaders would undoubtedly bring back with them details of the new additive put in wild-fire by the Arabs. And it is more than likely that Roger Bacon, who wrote of and gave the formula for blackpowder, about 1250, got his information from such a source.

While we can show that blackpowder was discovered about 1,200 A.D. it would have little military significance until the invention

of the gun which is attributed to Berthold Schwartz, also known as Berthold the Black, sometime between 1275 and 1325 A.D.

While these dates are much earlier than some authorities quote, I feel that the latter date can positively stand. For example, in "De Officiis Regum" written in 1325 there is illustrated a rather crude cannon, but still a cannon, discharging a barrel. Again in 1326 the Republic of Venice gave an order for metal cannon and iron balls to be used for the defence of their castles and towns. Also in a manuscript compiled by Shems ed-Din-Mohammad in 1320 there are more drawings of cannon shooting both round shot and quarrels and if we consider the crudeness of blackpowder at its inception we can realize that considerable skill must have gone into the loading, so as to attain uniform and maximum results. The correct density of loading would be a prime requisite and this skill could only be attained through practice over a period of time. That cannons were widely known by the first quarter of the thirteen hundreds, would again indicate that the science of gunnery, powder manufacture, cannon design and casting were known for some time, at least 25 years. Consequently, we can safely assume from this that the gun was invented in or about 1300 and not in the 1350's as stated by Guttman, nor in the 1380's as stated by Flavius Blondus and Baptista Saccus.

The earliest cannon were laminated, first long iron bars, the length of the gun were placed side by side to form the bore and around these large iron rings were shrunk. As a rule the larger cannon came in two parts, for ease of transportation. The breech end being so constructed that it could be used, when required, as a mortar. The smaller cannon, funny as it may seem were for a long time all breech loaders and this persisted on and until the time arrived that iron foundries were able to cast guns able to withstand the powder pressures generated. The earliest handguns were to a very great degree nothing more or less than a type of hand mortar, generally looking like a vase. It was from such beginnings that our present system of armaments grew.

REFERENCES:

Gunpowder and Ammunition ... Col. H.W.L. Hime
Explosives ... A. Marshall
Decline and Fall ... E. Gibbon
History of Firearms ... W. Y. Carman
Encyclopedia Britannica

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PLACES OF INTEREST FOR GUN COLLECTORS

If you travel or are on holidays here are some addresses of public gun collections for you to visit.

The Old Fort,
Fort McLeod, Alberta.
-Weapons of the Mounted Police.

Fort Battleford National Park,
Battleford, Sask.
-Some fine pieces here along with Mounted
Police Weapons.

Lighthouse Service Station,
Battleford, Sask.

-A general collection, mainly shoulder arms.

Museum,
Duck Lake, Sask.

-Just starting but has many fine pieces
of the 1885 period.

Museum,
Maple Creek, Sask.

-Firearms and other objects of the early
days in southwest Saskatchewan.

Western Development Museum,
Saskatoon, Sask.

- Some early firearms & Indian relics.

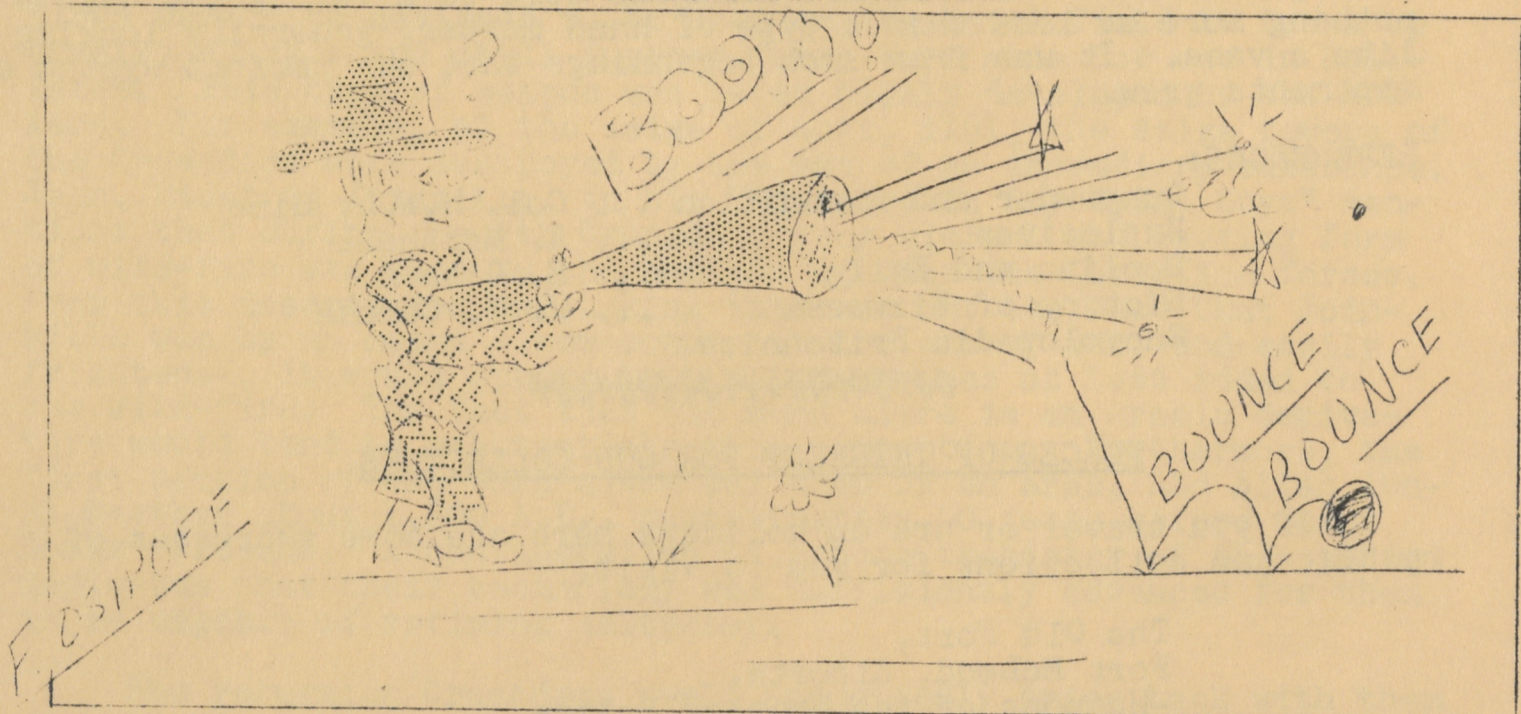
Riverhurst Courier,
Riverhurst, Sask.

-Large collection of firearms & Indian relics.

Depot Division Museum,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police Barracks,
Regina, Sask.

-Large collection of Mounted Police weapons
and saddlery and other firearms from the
earliest days.

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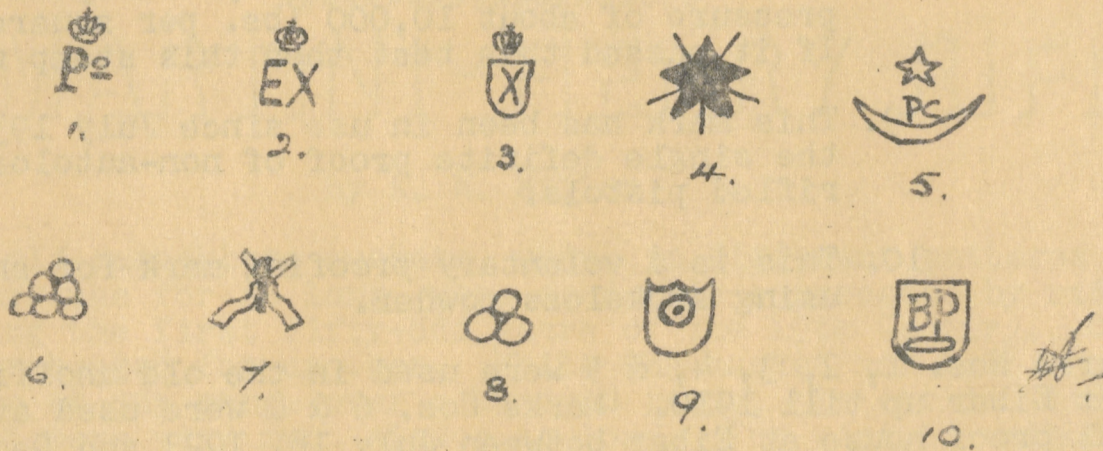
GUESS I NEED A LITTLE MORE
BLACK POWDER ! ! ! !

June 17TH ???

SPANISH PROOF MARKS

by S. J. Kirby

In the early 1800's Spanish proof marks were worth little or nothing from the point of view of proof. Many of the marks were imitations of the better proof marks from Belgium and other countries. In fact, the only spanish marks that could be considered as worth anything were those of some of the better gunsmiths. In 1844, as a result of representations made by the gunsmiths of Eibar, proofing of fire-arms became general for the first time in Spain. Yet, even this was of a more or less voluntary nature. This, however, did not prove satisfactory as the gunsmiths wanted international recognition, so in January 1915 the government passed laws making proof compulsory. In 1929 and 1931 further changes were made to these laws, mostly these changes concerned the style of the marks.



1. This is a provisional proof mark used for all smoothbore guns and was used at the unofficial Proof House at Eibar previous to 1910.
2. This mark had a dual purpose. It was the definite proof mark with blackpowder for muzzleloading shotguns when used in conjunction with mark No. 1. It was also used as the second provisional proof mark for breechloading shotguns.
3. This is the definite proof mark for breechloading shotguns, with the under locking lever and is used in conjunction with marks Nos. 1 and 2. It has sometimes been confused with the proof marks of the Italian Proof House of Gardone but an examination of other markings present will establish the correct identity.

4. This is the provisional proof mark for shot-gun barrels which replaced mark No. 1.
5. This is the mark used for definite proof of muzzle loading shotguns and must be accompanied by mark No. 4. It also replaced mark No. 2 as provisional proof for breechloaders.
6. This mark which has now been replaced by No. 8 was used to indicate single definite proof, with blackpowder, of double barrel muzzle loading shotguns.
7. This was used for single definite proof of single barrel breechloading shotguns.
8. When a muzzle loading single or double barrel shotgun was completely finished and the dimensions of the bore stamped outside in millimeters, it was tested in the white by blackpowder at a pressure of about 10,000 lbs. per square inch. If it passed this test then this stamp was used.
9. This mark has been in use since July 1931 for the single definite proof of non-autoloading rifled pistols.
10. This is a voluntary proofing mark for shotguns using smokeless powder.

Marks Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 were used in the old unofficial proof house at Eibar up till 1910. Marks Nos. 6 & 8 were used at the official proof house at Eibar between July 18, 1923 and December 12, 1929.

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REGINA COIN EXCHANGE

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IF YOU HAVE GUNS, STAMPS, OR COINS
FOR SALE WRITE AND I WILL SEE YOU.

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THE ALBERTA ARMS COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION

Our neighbours to the west have recently organized the ALBERTA ARMS COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION. We of the S.G.C.A. have been in correspondence with them since the start and have found that they are indeed a "going" club.

The association was formed officially on January 1st, 1962 and they have at present 73 members. Membership fees are \$2.00 per year and they hold monthly meetings in Calgary and charge admission of 50¢ per meeting.

This club puts out a monthly bulletin and also a very fine quarterly newsletter. Members of the S.G.C.A. have been offered admission to their meetings as guests. Meetings are held in Calgary on the last Wednesday and last Sunday of the month, alternating each month.

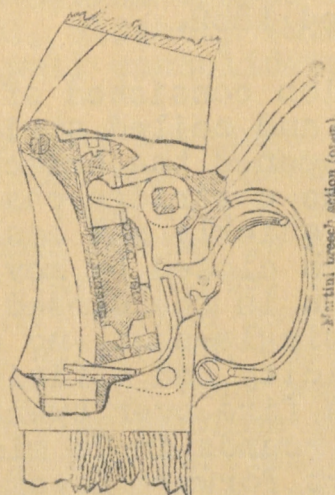
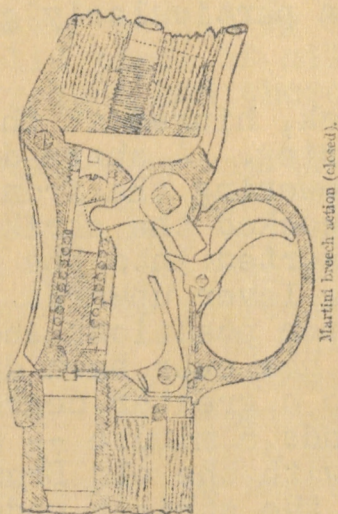
For further information about this association, write to: Mr. Murray Maylon, 1323 - 106th Avenue, S.W., Calgary, Alberta.

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THE MARTINI-HENRY RIFLE

by A. M. Millar

The old smoothbore muskets, which in different patterns had been in military use for so long, were gradually superceded by rifled weapons during the first fifty-odd years of the 19th Century. One problem was exchanged for another. While the musket had been shockingly inaccurate at any range over a hundred yards, the earlier rifles replacing it were very much slower to load. The various methods of satisfying the opposed requirements of a bullet that would go down easily



but fit the bore tightly on its way out generally came to grief owing to the fouling left by the first few shots.

One obvious solution was the breech loader (if a reasonably gas-tight breech could be developed), which would have the additional advantage that it could be loaded and fired from the prone position. About 1841 Prussia adopted the Dreyse needle gun- the first military breech loader- but it was such a poor weapon, with so many defects and dangerous features that it caused the breech-loading principle to be generally under-rated for many years.

The opinions of military and ordnance experts gradually changed, however, as improvements were made in the Prussian rifle, until in 1864 a committee of officers recommended to Earl de Grey and Ripon, Secretary of State for War, the adoption of breech-loading weapons for the British Army. Although their recommendation was approved by the Secretary, no action was taken until 1866, when the sudden triumph of Prussia in the Seven-Weeks War with Austria conclusively demonstrated the superiority of the breech-loader. All civilized powers now considered the situation to be urgent and began hastily rearming.

In 1867 Britain, as a temporary measure, converted the muzzle loading Pattern 1853 Enfield by the Snider method, on the recommendation of the new Small Arms Committee which had been set up the same year. This was a satisfactory stop-gap and gave time for the proper consideration and testing of many newly-invented systems. In 1869 the committee recommended a combination of the breech action of M. Frederich von Martini of Switzerland and the barrel designed by Mr. Alexander Henry, a prominent Edinburgh gunsmith.

The Snider-Enfield was proving to be popular with the troops and effective. This perhaps explains the leisurely approach to the introduction of the new rifle. Officially adopted in April, 1871, experimental models were tested in 1872 and eventually, in 1874, the Martini-Henry Mark I was first issued to the British army. This was followed by the Mark II in 1876 and the Mark III in 1879, which were identical to it except for very minor modifications. The rifle illustrated with its bayonet and ammunition is a particularly good specimen of Mark III dated 1882.

The Martini action consisted of a block, hinged at the rear, containing a striker and coiled striker spring. A sharp downward motion of the lever opened the breech by lowering the front end of the block, ejected the cartridge case and cocked the striker. A loaded cartridge was quickly and easily inserted into the chamber by hand and the breech closed by moving the lever upwards. Cut-away diagrams of the action in the closed and open positions should clarify this. Although single-shot, no action has ever been developed which combines simplicity and efficiency to a greater degree. A trained soldier could fire over twenty rounds a minute -- a far cry from the rate of ten rounds in $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes with the old Brunswick rifle ! The very short forward movement of the striker made possible such extreme accuracy that the Martini action is still used in many

of the best and most-expensive rifles being produced today for small-bore competition.

Henry's barrel in its military form was 2', 9 3/16th' in length. There were seven grooves of a depth of .007" at the muzzle and .009" at the breech, having a right hand twist of one in 22" (or one in 49 calibres). The rifling, intended to reduce fouling from powder deposits, was of unusual design. The flat grooves, each .121" wide, formed a "heptagon" or seven-sided figure instead of a circle. Narrow lands, each only .058" at its base, projected inwards from the angles of the heptagon and tapered to a width of .003".

The cartridge for the new rifle was the Boxer-Henry 450/577. Various "marks" ran from 2.98" to 3.15" in length, with charges of 65 to 85 grains of black powder, the lower charge being for use in the carbine version. The case was bottle-shaped, of coiled-brass construction with an iron base. The bullet, paper-patched and cylindro-concoidal, was 480 grains of hardened lead and had a muzzle velocity of about 1,350 fps.

Production at the Royal Manufactory at Enfield, involved 2,004 separate operations for each rifle. A description of the methods used may be of interest.

The barrel was made of mild steel manufactured on the Seimens principle; cylinders 16" long and 1½" thick being supplied by contract. These were first rolled in the factory to a long cone, having slightly greater dimensions than the exterior of the finished barrel. They were then heated in a furnace and passed straight through a series of eight pairs of rollers, each pair being grooved and the grooves becoming narrower and shallower as each pair was reached. The pairs were alternatedly vertical and horizontal and when in full production, rolled about 250 cylinders per hour.

The cone was next placed between friction rollers which were set at a slight angle, so that in revolving they would pass it along slowly. It emerged from them polished with the compression and showing their action by a close spiral traced on the surface. It was then a solid piece of mild steel, slightly thicker than the barrel, fairly straight and thoroughly well consolidated.

The next step was to obtain true bearings for boring the interior and turning the exterior. The cone was placed in a clamp milling machine and the ends milled down. This operation required some judgement, the milling-down of the ends having to be so performed that the centres would be approximately true centres; that is, so that the amount of metal to be subsequently turned down off the exterior of the barrel would be about equal all round. The ends, when milled down, served for bearings by which the cone was next held horizontally and drilled in a double-acting machine for 1½". These acted as centres when the barrel was placed vertically and drilled through from each end. Three tools were used, the last being of slightly greater diameter than the others. A shoulder was left in the centre to avoid the inconvenience of the tools from opposite ends not

exactly meeting in the middle, as might have been the case with the long slender drills necessarily employed. This was then removed with a square tapered bit. The cone was still slightly larger than the finished barrel, but had a hole through it .433" in diameter. The hole was then bored out to .444". Having got a true inside, the next step was to obtain a true outside from it.

The cone was placed vertically in a machine, the lower end fitting accurately on a pin and the upper end passing loosely through a hollow chuck which revolved round a centre concentric with the centre of the pin and the axis of the bore of the cone. The exterior of the cone, being slightly irregular, would be eccentric. Sulphur was therefore melted and poured into the hollow chuck, filling up the space between the interior of the chuck and the exterior of the cone. The chuck then held the cone in proper position by the outside and served as a bearing. The cone was next placed in a lathe and two or three short cuts taken off the outside as bearings for the rough turning. This was called "spotting". It was then rough and finish turned, the outside becoming concentric with the inside, and the cone had become a barrel.

It was then tested for truth of interior. Two tests were employed, the first being by "shading". The barrel was placed in a rest, so arranged that an eye looking through the tube saw the straight line of the top of a window cutting horizontally across the aperture a little above centre. If the barrel was accurately straight and brightly polished, the shadow thrown by the dark window frame appeared as a dark triangle with its apex at the bottom of the far aperture and two straight sides extending half the length of the barrel towards the eye. If the barrel was untrue in interior surface or bent, the triangle would lose its regularity and the sides would not be straight. If they were irregular the barrel was "set" by striking with a hammer or ebonite mallet across a setting block.

The barrel was next placed in a machine and a horizontal spindle run through it. On the spindle were two close-fitting gauges, one at the centre and one at the end. The barrel was then made to revolve on the spindle and an indicator with a long arm recorded small graduations was inserted at the free end between the spindle and the barrel. Any irregularity of turning was multiplied 200 times by the long arm and at once become apparent.

After passing these tests the barrel was finish turned, the backsight was soldered on and screwed and the foresight was braised on. The size of the bore was then gauged, after which the process of polishing was completed and the barrel was ready for rifling.

The design of the rifling has already been described. Each groove was cut separately by a tool which acted when pulled. It formed the groove by five successive cuts, being forced to project a little more at each cut, thus passing thirty-five times up and down the barrel to complete the rifling. This took half an hour. The size of the bore was then finally tested and had to be between .449" and .451". The rifling was similarly tested and the twist gauged.

The breech end of the barrel was next chambered out to receive the cartridge. The exterior of the breech end was of "Nock's" form, the upper surface being a flat true to the bore. This flat guided all the fittings, the barrel being placed in a machine true to the flat and the sights gauged for line and elevation. No allowance was made for deflection due to the twist of the rifling, it being very slight. The barrel was lastly threaded at the breech end to fit the body.

Each barrel was twice subjected to proof by powder, once before rifling and once after. Sixteen were placed in a cast-iron frame, a temporary steel screw furnished with a vent closing each breech end, which rested against a leaden bar. They were loaded from the muzzles, a train of powder ignited by a cap firing them simultaneously. The bullets were caught in a hollow cast-iron trap shaped like a snail shell. The charge for the first proof was $7\frac{1}{2}$ drs. (205 grs) of powder and a bullet weighing 715 grains secured by a half-inch cork was forced down over it. The second proof was the same, except that only 5 drs. (137 grs) of powder were used.

The barrel when finished was blued by being coated with a mixture and caused to rust in a steam tank. It was then brushed with wire brushes. The process was repeated four times, after which the exterior was oiled over. The mixture consisted of:

Spirits of wine	5 oz.	Corrosive sublimate	4 oz.
Spirits of nitre	8 oz.	Blue vitriol	4 oz.
Tincture of steel	8 oz.	Water	1 gal.
Nitric acid	4 oz.		

The stock was in two parts: the butt and the fore-end. They were of Italian walnut and were supplied roughly shaped. They were tested for straightness of grain; weight, as indicating strength; "shakes" or cracks; "galls" caused by injuries over which the wood had grown; saltiness (which would cause absorption of moisture and consequent rusting) by putting a shaving in nitrate of silver; and also for appearance. Those accepted were thoroughly seasoned in storage or dried in hot air. They then went to the shaping machines and were cut to size by revolving cutters making 4,000 revolutions per minute, afterwards being turned in copying lathes, hollowed out by copying gouges and bored to take the fittings. They were then tested, machined, hand-finished and oiled up.

The body was of mild steel, stamped out from bar metal and then drifted through by a slightly tapered bar carrying a succession of cutters on it. The front part was then threaded to receive the screw end of the barrel, so that when home they would fit together accurately. The lever and all parts except screws and springs were stamped out of solid bar. Each part was milled by machinery to a correct fit. Every fitting was interchangeable and nothing was marked for selection to fit anything else. All were blued in the same way as barrels.

On completion all parts were taken to the assembling room, where they were fitted together, screwed up and turned out as finished rifles. These were then taken to the practice ground and tested for accuracy and extraction of cartridge by being fired from a rest at a range of 500 yards.

The bayonet consisted of a steel blade welded to a wrought iron socket. Steel of superior quality, supplied in bars, was cut into lengths and welded by the aid of borax to short rods of rolled iron; the two being put together so as to form a right angle. The steel bar was then put into a "Rydering" machine, which gave it a great number of rapid blows and shaped it roughly into a blade. It was then rolled and cooled gradually under charcoal and coal-dust for annealing purposes. The socket was then drilled out and the blade ground. They were then bent into position and became a bayonet. Turning and finish-boring completed the sockets, while the blades were fine-ground, hardened, tempered, tested and polished. The sockets were then blued and adjusted to the rifles.

About 1,400 operatives were employed at the Royal Manufactory at this time and the output was about a rifle a week per man. All expenses included, each Martini-Henry cost about 48s., a good sum of money in those days.

So far this rifle, the most powerful military small arm of its day, sounds pretty deadly. It was, when it worked !

It had apparently not occurred to the ordnance experts or the Small Arms Committee that tests of a weapon intended for military service should be carried out under all the many and varied types of unfavourable conditions under which it might be expected to function. The day of the "trial of a thousand rifles", with tests carried out by troops in the heat of India, the cold of Canada, the sands of Egypt and the wet of various particularly-wet outposts of the Empire had not yet arrived.

The first complaints regarding the new weapon were found to have resulted from the very typical failure of the troops to handle it properly. Not lowering the lever with sufficient "snap" extracted the empty cartridge but failed to eject it. The tendency of some of the 22" -long bayonet blades to bend was caused, not by inferior material or carelessness in manufacture, but by the soldiers having used them as camp-fire pokers ! When fired, the rifle had a most vicious kick, far greater than that of the Sniker-Enfield, which did nothing towards popularizing it with the troops. This could not be blamed on faulty handling and it began to appear that it might be partly due to the fact that the bore fouled up badly - the very fault that Henry's design was intended to avoid. With these few and comparatively unimportant reservations, however, the Martini-Henry rifle and its modified-Boxer cartridge served well through the Kaffir War of 1878 and the Afghan wars of 1878-80.

The first really serious trouble became apparent in Zululand, commencing in 1879, and here the defect lay in the ammunition. In 1866, Col. Boxer of the Royal Laboratory had developed the coiled brass cartridge which was subsequently adopted for use in the Snider-Enfield. It has been suggested that its acceptance was influenced by the fact that it was made by hand largely child labour, and that expensive steam-powered machinery did not have to be set up to produce it. In fairness though it must be pointed out that it was a very good design. On explosion of the propellant charge pressure caused the coiled brass to partly uncoil, expanding it to a tight fit against the walls of the chamber and providing a perfect gas seal; a major consideration at that time. When the pressure dropped, the case recoiled itself, simplifying extraction. The Ashanti War of 1873 was the only sizeable conflict in which the Snider-Enfield and its .577 Boxer cartridge were used and in it they had proved themselves a good and effective combination. The same principle, with such modifications as were made necessary by the longer case and its bottle shape, was therefore used in designing the ammunition for the Martini-Henry.

Much of the fighting in Zululand took place during the wet season. The coiled brass cases were light and easily damaged, and, although even damaged cases could generally be forced into the chamber, the opening up of the seam allowed the powder to become wet. Misfires were common. Cartridges were then made with an external covering of paper, but the paper, intended to keep out moisture, became sodden and made loading impossible.

In the Sudan in 1885, the combination of the Boxer-Henry cartridge and the Martini extractor broke down as a result of sand. At the battle of Abu Klea, 1,400 British - guards and mounted infantry - were able to fire only one volley against the charging onslaught of 12,000 well-armed and fanatical Dervishes before about a quarter of their rifles jammed. Only the habit of discipline enabled the troops to maintain their battle square and fight off the enemy in hand-to-hand combat. Though every effort was made to keep weapons free from sand, similar troubles were experienced at Metamneh and other engagements. It became a practice to use the cleaning rod to extract cartridge cases. (the British so distrusted extractors after this that the .303 Lee-Metford and the Lee-Enfield Mark I were provided with rods, called "clearing rods", to be used in emergency for this purpose.) The difficulty was at least partly rectified when a cartridge with a solid drawn case was hurriedly introduced the same year for use in Egypt.

A new Committee had been appointed in 1883, as a result of the experiences in Zululand, to consider improvements to the rifle and its ammunition. The Sudan injected a degree of urgency into its deliberations and in 1886 it recommended retention of the Martini action, with a longer lever, but adoption of a barrel with a shallow-grooved bore of .402 calibre using ammunition having solid-drawn cases. About 70,000 of these were produced and designated the Enfield-Martini. The project was abandoned however, as it was already apparent that the next development would have to be a magazine rifle. The Enfield-Martinis were therefore converted to conform with the regular service rifle and became the Martini-Henry Mark IV. (I recently obtained a good specimen of this weapon from Lever Arms Service

of Vancouver, 'author').

Following the adoption of the Lee-Metford in 1889 and the Lee-Enfield in 1895, the Martini-Henry was gradually relegated to the status of second-line weapon. In 1895 conversion was commenced. Mark III's were refitted with .303 Enfield barrels and became the Martini-Enfield Mark I. It was interesting to note that the .303 cartridge, originally designed with a rimless case, was re-designed with a rim so that it would be possible to convert the Martini-Henry to use it. Slight modifications in pattern resulted in the Martini-Enfield Mark I (star), and the Mark II, and the Mark II (star). Others were shortened and designated the Martini-Enfield Artillery Carbine Mark I and the Martini-Enfield Cavalry Carbine Mark I. There had been sealed patterns for a Martini-Henry Mark V and a Martini-Henry .303-in. Mark VI, but these, when produced, became Martini-Metford Marks I and II. Conversion of Martini-Henrys to Martini-Metford Mark II was authorized in 1900 to use up a stock of Metford barrels.

With all its faults the old Martini-Henry served well. As a young soldier in the 1920's I knew several "old-timers" who had fought with it, chiefly in the Northwest Frontier of India. All spoke of it with respect and even affection and remembered unhappily the change-over to the Lee-Metford with its "light" (215 grain), metal-jacketted .303 bullet. The hill tribesmen also respected it, even to the point of having a crude "factory" where they produced rough but fireable replicas, complete with Crown and Royal Cypher. I have seen photographs of these and of the tribesmen making them, and Lever Arms Service had in stock several such native-made "Martini-Enfields" in .303.

As recently as 1910, not only were Martini-Enfields still in use in the British service (volunteers, militia, etc.), but so also were Martini-Henrys, Marks II III and IV!

(With A. M. (Sandy) Miller's kind permission both the Alberta Gun Collectors and Saskatchewan Collectors have been given permission to publish this article. Sandy Miller is also a member of the executive of the Alberta Association).

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ON THE COVER

A matched pair of Belgium pocket pistols from F. Osipoff's collection. Brass barrels and actions in 44 Calibre.

THE RIFLE THAT CANADA BUILT

by Roger Phillips

We had a look at Ross sporting rifles in the last issue of GUN TALK. The subsequent line drawings and descriptions will provide at least an inkling of the tremendous number of variations which occurred in Ross military rifles. Ross military weapons appeared in three distinct Marks, which passed through more than 80 variations.

(SEE PICTURES NEXT PAGE)

MARK I - Approximately 10,500 were produced. A version with barrel shortened to 26 inches was used by the Royal Northwest Mounted Police. The Mark I was equipped with the Ross rear sight Mark I, the Mark I (star) had the Ross rear sight Mark II. The action was cocked on forward closing motion of the bolt. All subsequent patterns cocked on rear-ward opening motion of the bolt.

SPECIFICATIONS

1903 pattern
Barrel length: 28 ins.
Mag. capacity: 5 cart'gs

Weight: approx 8 lbs., 8 oz.
Length: 4 ft., 5/8 ins.
Rifling: 4 grooves, twist to right,
1 turn in 10 ins.

Stock: walnut

Front sight-hooded barleycorn

Calibre: .303 British

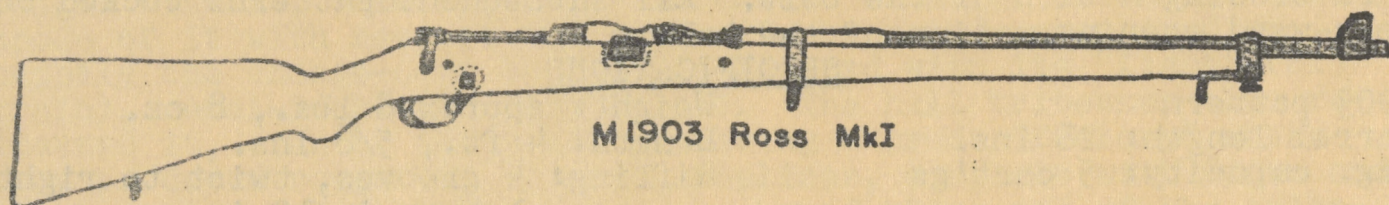
Rear sight-sliding elevation type

MARK II - Approximately 182,700 Mark II rifles, ranging through five star designations, were produced.

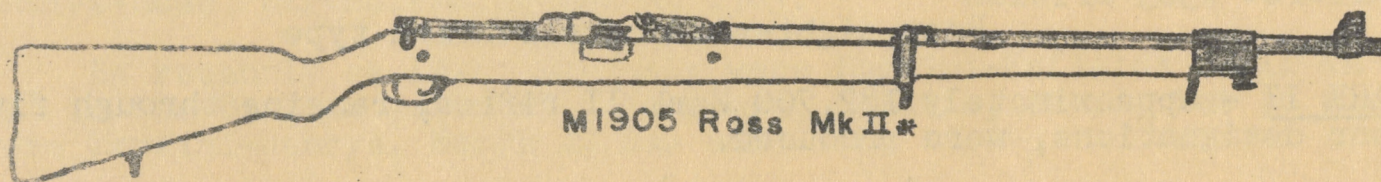
MARKS II, II (star), II³ (star), II⁴ (star), and II⁵ (star) were on the 1905 pattern action and had 28-inch barrels with 4-groove rifling, twist to the right. The Mark II had the Ross rear sight Mark II; the Mark II (star) had the Ross rear sight Mark III. The Mark II⁴ (star) was never issued as such, being immediately factory-converted to Mark II³ (star). Several Mark II and II (star) rifles were also converted to Mark II³ (star), the main distinguishing feature of which was the Sutherland rear sight Mark II, mounted on the barrel. Otherwise, specifications were similar to the Mark I. The Mark II (2star) was possibly the best rifle Ross produced. Early in this century, it gained the reputation of being the most accurate military rifle in the world, sweeping the boards at the Bisley matches for several years running. Earlier Mark II (2star) rifles were factory conversions from the Mark II and Mark II (star) rifles. Production of the Mark II (2star) as such occurred in 1911-12. The Mark II (2star) had a 30.5" barrel, which made this weapon considerably heavier than the other Mark II rifles. Rifling was 4-groove, twist to the left, 1 turn in 10 inches. Total weight was 9 lbs., 9 oz. The Mark II (2star) did not have a magazine cut-off, as did all the other Mark II designations, and was equipped with the Sutherland (later Canada Tool and Specialty Co.) rear sight.

MARK III - Approximately 149,000 were made, being built on the 1910 patented action. This was the rifle used at the front in World War I and which caused such a fuss that it was finally withdrawn from the trenches during the middle and late summer of 1916. Under combat conditions the rifle jammed frequently.

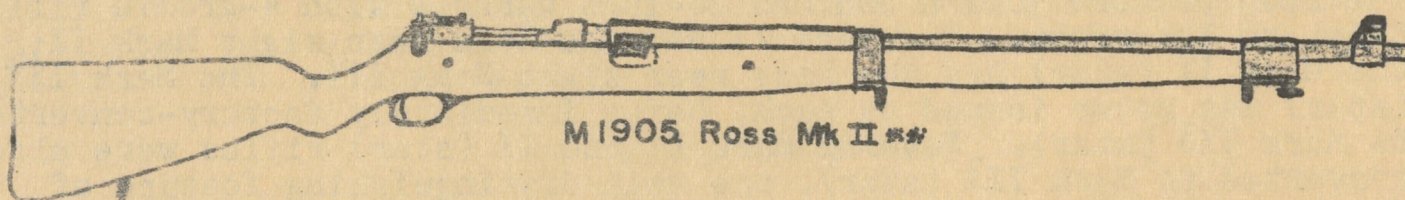
It was also longer and heavier (weighing 9 lbs. 14 oz.) than the less cumbersome Lee Enfield (No. I, Mark III), which replaced it in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The bolt head of the Mark III was of the interrupted, or, "screw" type, which engaged corresponding lugs in the receiver. The rear sight was of a new screw-elevating pattern, mounted on a charger guide bridge towards the rear of the receiver. A notable departure from previous patterns was the protruding Lee-type magazine. In most other respects, specifications were similar to the Mark II (2star).



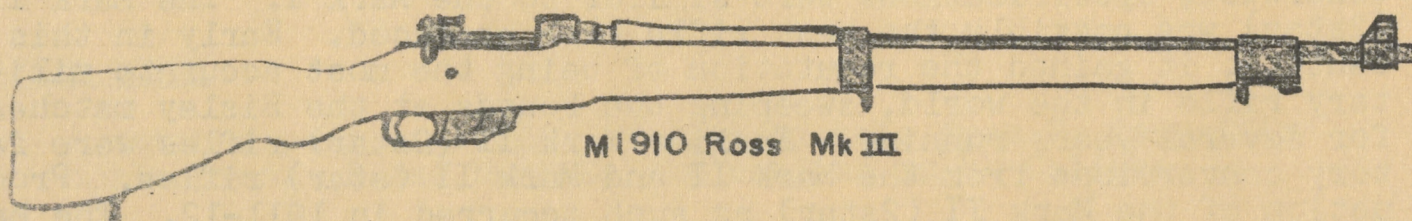
M1903 Ross Mk I



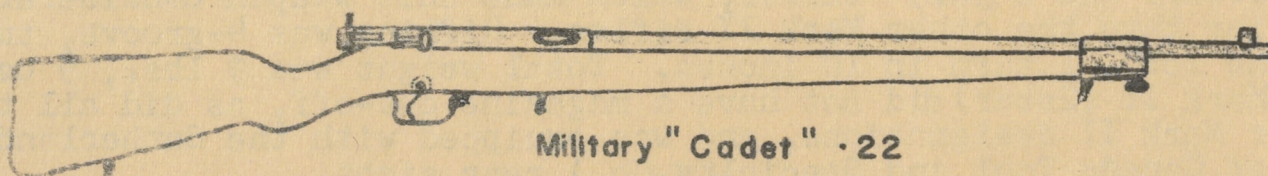
M1905 Ross Mk II*



M1905 Ross Mk II**



M1910 Ross Mk III



Military "Cadet" .22

WHAT IS IT ?? _____

-----asks Ontario collector DAN GAYNOR

Some time ago, I acquired what at first glance appeared to be an ordinary half-stock muzzle-loading shotgun. Upon closer examination, however, several odd features became evident.

Here was a 12 guage shotgun with a rifle style buttplate, a cheek-piece and a patchbox. On stripping it down for cleaning, it was discovered after removing the sedge holding the barrel in the stock that the barrel was hinged on a lug in front of the tang. Removal of the barrel necessitated only lifting it up and off the lug, doing away with the usual tang screw.

At this time, the gun was cleaned and set aside in the gun rack, with no more thought than that some old time gun tinkerer had built it from 'parts and pieces'. This was partially surmised from the fact the trigger-guard had a hole for a sling swivel, which was missing. There was no swivel band on the barrel, which led me to believe that the guard may have been taken from some other gun, probably of military origin.

The general workmanship of the gun leaves something to be desired, although everything is sound and solid. The stock is finely-figured walnut, furnishings are brass and unfortunate to say... there are no markings.

Some time after running across the gun, an old gunsmith told me of having a gun as a boy that could be fitted with either a fowling or rifled barrel. He could remember no further details of the gun aside from the fact that the barrels were instantly interchangeable, being hinged on a lug at the tang. Suddenly it hit me...could this be the answer to my shotgun with the rifle features?

A letter was instantly dispatched to the previous owner, who seemed to remember that originally there were two barrels for the gun. His search, however, failed to locate the rifled barrel, if one ever existed.

In the past several years, I have heard of two others, although not identical guns. I have not, however, been able to actually inspect such a gun. One thing is certain...if the guns mentioned are similar, and if they were fashioned by a pioneer "do-it-yourself-fan" he evidently saw them well-travelled, for the three guns, including mine, were originally owned in areas over 1,000 miles apart.

If, on the other hand, the guns were manufactured in considerable quantity, I find it strange that I have not seen one listed in any of the thousands of books and catalogues scanned during the past 10 years. If any of our Association members have any ideas on the subject, I will certainly welcome their assistance in solving the riddle of the "two-barrel question mark".

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S.G.C.A. MEMBERS VISIT A MONTANA GUN SHOW

by Lloyd Dobrescu

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to tell our fellow gun collectors about our recent trip to the gun show sponsored by the Montana Arms Collectors Association and the Electric City Lions Club. This show was held at Great Falls, Montana, May 18, 19 and 20.

Myself and Ron Hill left Moose Jaw on May 19th and arrived at noon the next day, after spending a night at Harver Montana. Upon our arrival at the show we were distressed to learn that some of the larger collections from neighboring states had pulled out due to travelling distance. However, there was still a large amount of arms on display.

The show was held in the Civic Center on the ice surface. There were five rows of tables running the length of the ice surface and apparently they were all taken on the 19th. There was still enough to see and do on the 20th when we were there. A 50¢ admission was charged at the door.

The thing that really surprised me was that most of the arms on display had a price tag on them. One could buy Colts, Winchesters, Sharps, Remingtons, percussions and many other guns right at the show from the tables. The condition of guns on display was very good and many unusual and rare items were displayed.

While in Great Falls we visited the Charles Russel Museum and saw some of the best western art in existence. A visit to this museum is worth the trip to Great Falls alone.

All in all we travelled 1014 miles for the round trip and had a wonderful time, both at the show and on the trip. The only difficulty was one at Customs when we wished to take some arms into the U.S.A.

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GUN TALK WITH FRED

by Fred Osipoff

In this issue of Gun Talk I will do a little test-fire series on some of the newly manufactured muzzle loaders that have come to my attention. This issue will deal with the flintlock pistol that is advertised by International firearms. Next issue will deal with the Remington percussion as sold by Lever Arms.

The flintlock pistol sells for \$24.50 and is a good value for the money. It is a smooth bore of about 20 gauge. With the exception of the bulky stock the gun is well finished, with a case hardened lock and trigger guard. The lock is of good quality and the flint sparks on the frizzen every time.

Just fooling around and testing lock time I primed the pan with black powder of a coarse nature (fg) and put about 10 grains into the barrel and seated it with tissue. I found that even with this coarse powder, lock time was good and ignition of the charge almost instantaneous with that of ignition in the pan.

Not having a round ball of suitable size I have been shooting shot out of this smoothbore. Using about 25 grains of blackpowder and a 455 case full of shot with tissue wadding, you spray a good-sized area. The ideal home defence gun for nervous widows and old maids.

Not worrying too much about accuracy at this time I can recommend this gun. It is well made, has a lock that is worth the price of the gun alone, and with a little work on that stock you have a fine shooting flintlock.

Look me up at the muzzle loading shoot for a look at the gun !

I have been corresponding with a chap in England for some time and during this correspondence I have been able to learn what it takes to own a firearm in that country. There are two types of licences as listed below.

1. Firearms Certificate

This is issued at the discretion of the Chief Constable with usually a three week or a month waiting period. This covers only one type of gun and the ammunition to be used over a given period of time. The amount of ammunition to be used must be declared at time of issuing of licence and the ammunition must be recorded as purchased. Cost a few shillings.

2. Gun Licence

This is required for smooth-bores, air rifles, and shotguns, and can be had for the asking at any post office. Price about a shilling and valid for a year.

I wonder if this is what some of our lawmakers have in mind for Canada. I know a dozen target shooters that do not know what they will shoot in a month, let alone a year.

Well, on to lighter things. In my spare time I have been consulting with that noted head doctor, Ludwig Van Gunbug. After many sleepless nights we have come up with a glossary for members in the arms collecting business. These explanations of simple collecting terms will be of great help to both the novice and old-time collector.

GUN COLLECTOR: owns a gun.

ADVANCED COLLECTOR: owns two guns or more.

SPECIALIST: an advanced collector, but both guns the same.

DEALER: an advanced collector who sold a gun once.

EXPERT: reads GUN TALK.

N.R.A. CONDITION: mint (will clean better).

A SLEEPER: a gun you bought for \$15.00, is worth \$10.00 and you want to unload for \$500.00.

JUST PICKED IT UP: drove 500 miles three times, mortgaged the house to buy it.

GOT IT FROM A GUY: I will not tell you his name as he has another gun I want.

TRADING: Make every week "beat your buddy week".

FACTORY CONVERSION: done in Joe Blow's factory basement (sweat factory).

GUNSMITH: owns a file, a hammer and a hacksaw.

GOT IT IN A TRADE: what you tell the little woman when you pay too much for a gun.

WHAT IS IT WORTH?: every nickel I can get.

CARTRIDGE COLLECTOR: if everybody was collecting cars, he would collect gasoline.

SHOOTING CONDITION: if well insured.

Well, that about wraps it up for this issue. One more article like this and I am off the editorial staff !

Remember the MUZZLE LOADING SHOOT JUNE 17th. See you there.

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BOOK REVIEWS by S.J.K.

THE CANADIAN GUNSMITHS
1608-1900

Price \$17.50

by S.James Gooding

It is not very often that one can review a book before it has come to hand. However, in this case having met Jim Gooding some time ago and having spoken about his book and its contents I feel that I can say a few words. This work starts off with the landing of one of the greatest explorers of all times on the North American continent and the gunsmith who came with him and from there takes us down to the 20th century listing and giving biographical data on over 700 Canadian gunsmiths. A book of this nature and size will, in my opinion, be a very big shot in the arm to collectors of Canadiana, with a possible raise in the value of these items. In order that those interested members may be able to save some money we have arranged with Jim Gooding to include in this issue of GUN TALK a mimeographed sheet, which when forwarded to him, will allow members to make a pre-publication purchase at a reduced price. This offer expires on September 1st this year, so don't lose out.

FIREARMS CURIOSA

Price \$8.00

by Lewis Winant, St.
Martin's Press N. Y.

For a collector of oddball items and freakish weapons, this is a book of delight. It covers about 300 different pieces such as combination weapons, miniature firearms, multiple cylinder revolvers, disguised guns like cane guns, alarm and trap guns, turret guns, chain guns and so ad infinitum. A book that makes very interesting reading and proves once again that there is nothing new under the sun.

*** GUN COLLECTORS' SPECIAL ***

Martini Enfield rifles Mark I and II Lever action cal. 577/450	....	\$19.50
Lee Enfield No. 4 Service rifle as issued cal. 303 British	....	\$14.50
Lee Enfield Mark III Service rifle cal. 303 British	....	\$14.50
Bayonets with Scabbard	....	\$ 2.25
British Jungle Carbine No.5 caliber .303	....	\$27.50
British Enfield Military rifle P-17 (new) 30-06	....	\$34.50
S. M. L. E. No.1 Mark III cal. 22 Cadet Service rifle	....	\$19.50
Lee Enfield Cavalry Carbine M1898 Mark I, 5-shot		
Detachable Magazine, caliber .303	....	\$29.50
Mannlicher-Schonauer rifle caliber 6.5, mfg. by Steyr.	....	\$24.50
Mannlicher-Schonauer carbine cal. 6.5, mfg. by Steyr.	....	\$29.50
Austrian Model 95 Steyr Mannlicher rifle, Straight Pull		
Caliber 8mm Austrian	....	\$ 9.50
Austrian Model 95 Steyr Mannlicher carbine, Straight Pull		
Caliber 8mm Austrian	....	\$ 9.50
French Model 1907/15 Rifle caliber 8mm Lebel	....	\$ 9.50
French Model 1907/15 Carbine caliber 8mm Lebel	....	\$ 9.50
Italian Beretta Carbine caliber 6.5mm	....	\$ 8.50
Lee Enfield Single Shot 410 Musket, mfg. for Pakistan Riot		
Police and Prison Guards	....	\$19.95
30 M-1 Carbines, 15-shot, gas operated, semi-automatic. New.		\$89.50
Lee Enfield Sniper Rifles No.4, .303 caliber	....	\$19.50
B. S. A. Model 8 Target Rifles, complete with target sights,		
Weight 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. .22 caliber	....	\$39.50
F. N. Browning NATO Rifle, semi-automatic, cal. 7.62 (.308)		
20 rds. magazine. New.	....	\$175.00
British Grenade Launchers for MarkIII*rifles	....	\$ 9.95
Khyber Pass "Counterfeit" Webley revolvers, caliber .38 made		
in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier	....	\$19.50
Martini Lever Action Single Shot Pistols in .303 British caliber.		
Hand Engraved Designs.	....	\$29.50

Please select second choice if possible

All other models, rifles, shotguns, revolvers, pistols & ammunition.

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THE MEMBERS

Write

Editor,

Now that most members have recovered from their pneumonia and colds and are back to work, writing letters and making trades after the big show in Saskatoon, we of the Saskatoon area would like to extend our thanks, to everyone for their support.

An estimated 400 people viewed the displays and the comments heard by the writer were all favourable and impressive, that is, if we exclude the temperature.

Another show under our belt, another terrific journal turned out and I'm sure we are all looking for the summer and the muzzle loader shoot with the enthusiasm that makes our Association what it is, the hottest in Canada.

Les Smith,
Area Director, Saskatoon.

EDITOR-Thanks Les, we all enjoyed the show.

Editor;

Sorry for not sending my dues in sooner, sure don't want to be without GUN TALK, it is just great. I'm sending in \$2.00 for a friend of mine... Would like to know if anyone has any Winchesters or Marlins with 14 inch barrels. I have a .30-30 Marlin carbine with the 14 inch barrel, these were made in 5 different calibres.

Wilfred Drumheller,
Makwa, Sask.

EDITOR-Okay boys, answer the man. The first part of this letter is included as a hint, that is, H-I-N-T.

Editor,

.....a P.O. to cover the cost of subscription for the current year.....

It is very satisfying to know that there are people in Regina with interest and energy sufficient to produce your fine magazine, and I'm sure it will grow tremendously as things progress. The articles are very informative and I like your mutual information idea. I, for one would like to see more articles on the Ross rifle. (Can you help me identify the following)...a Snider-Enfield carbine that has five lands and grooves instead of the usual three.

Wilf Black,
224 Wellington St.,
Ottawa, Ontario.

EDITOR- Thank you Wilf, you and other members will be glad to know that our membership is up 40% since last year, but lets not stop there. While I cannot give you anything definite without further information, it would appear that your Snider is one of the later models, that is, it was manufactured as a Snider and is not a conversion from an Enfield.

Editor,

On the inside cover of GUN TALK I notice "founded 1961. I suggest you change this to read as follows:

founded 1961 - incorporated 1962.

Once again, congratulations on the publication of this excellent journal.

Claude Burrows, Q.C.,
2168 Smith St.,
Regina, Sask.

EDITOR- No sooner said than done. Thanks.

ARGOSY HOUSE ANTIQUES

BEN DOBRESCU PROP.

10% DISCOUNT ON ALL
GUNS FOR S.G.C.A. MEM-
BERS FOR THE REST OF
JUNE. BUY NOW & SAVE.

WE BUY, SELL, OR TRADE, ON REVOLVERS, RIFLES, PISTOLS, SHOTGUNS,
AND SHELLS. WE HAVE A LARGE STOCK ON HAND. LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU NEED.

WANTED: FLINTLOCKS AND PERCUSSION ARMS FOR MY PERSONAL COLLECTION,
WILL TRADE.

IF YOU HAVE IT-
WE WANT IT.
IT IS YOURS TO KEEP-
BUT OURS IF WE CAN GET IT.

4 CARIBOU ST. W. MOOSE JAW

PH. 692-8953

THE COLLECTORS CORNER

FEATURING THE MARK KING COLLECTION

by Fred Osipoff

This issue of Gun Talk will feature the Mark King collection. Mark was one of our founding fathers and can be seen at most of the activities sponsored by this association.

Mark has a general collection ranging about 50 pieces, about half and half handguns and rifles. While interviewing Mark about his collection he brought out a R.N.W.M.P. 1876 Winchester Carbine. This gun is in very nice condition and is also stamped A.P.P. 45 (for Alberta Provincial Police).

Mark said that he saw this gun mentioned in Gun Talk and when he was out hunting in the north of the province he came upon this rifle. The owner was using it for hunting and would not make a trade at this time. Needless to say Mark pressed on and finally a deal was made. This goes to show that good guns are still available in the field if you look for them. The owner of this gun used it for hunting right until last season.

Two of the nicest items in the King collection are a German Luger artillery model GOLD PLATED and a Mauser broom handle pistol, also GOLD PLATED. Mark bought these at our gun show last year and they are beauties and have to be seen to be appreciated.

Among some long arms is a very nice 1873 Carbine in 38/40, and an Arabian Miquelet that could double for a pole vaulters pole.

Mark has a good collection of handguns, both old and modern. Among these is a Lacy 50 Cal. Horse pistol, a flint lock pistol in 45 Cal., and Smith & Wessons. In this collection is a 50 Cal. cap and ball pistol that has been in the King family for years. It was brought to this country by his cousin who came from Ireland as an exchange student and was restored by Mark.

One cannot look at this collection without noticing the swords and bayonets. Amongst these is a french officers dress sword. He also has a whip with a dagger in the handle. This would be ideal for wife beating if your wife was bigger than you. Another item is a swagger stick with a foot long dagger in it.

Amongst other things, Mark is an ardent hunter and owns Browning rifles in 243 and 30-06 Cal. Mark also shoots competitive pistol and uses a Hi-Standard Supermatic with success in this field.

All in all, Mark has a very nice general collection and is not thinking of specializing at this time. I can think of no better way to spend an evening than talking guns or hunting with Mark.

#####

SWAP SHOP

FOR SALE: Colt New Service Revolver, 455, Very good, \$30.00: 303 Lee Enfield R.I.C. Carbine, Very good, \$25.00: 30-06 Enfield, (Eddystone) P17 Military, \$25.00: Winchester Model 92, 24" Bbl., 32 W.C.F. \$30.00: 9 mm Steyre automatic, 1916, \$20.00: 9 mm Mauser pistol model 1898, \$50.00: Write to Roy Hanlon, 146-7th St. N.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta.

FOR SALE: ALTA-AMMO, Cartridges for collectors. List 10¢ in stamps. Box lots of .30 and .32 Remington ammo @ \$2.00 per box: 22 W.R.F. ammo @ \$1.00 per box: 3 boxes 30 Rem. and 2 boxes 22 W.R.F. @ \$5.00: .218 Improved Bee @ \$5.00 per box. Also empty 218 brass.

WANTED: Cartridges for my collection. Specializing in Canadian made cartridges especially shotshells. Require boxes, catalogues, posters, and any information Canadian made ammo. Write ALTA-AMMO, 12231 - 137 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta.

FOR SALE: Saskatchewan Gun Collectors' Association Information Sheets. Ideal for 3 ring binder. Keep a record of all your guns. \$1.00 per hundred. Write F. Osipoff, 2665 Winnipeg St., Regina.

WANTED: Old gun company catalogues, calander, and advertising material. Also want Henry & Jennings rifles and Stevens lever repeaters models 430, 435 and 440. Need Colt & Marlin saddle ring carbines, Marlin muskets, Fogarty carbines and rifles, A.D. Perry carbines. Want these winchesters; models 53, 55, 65, 92, 95 and any saddle ring carbines, all with pistol grips and fancy wood or any unusual rifles. Want any single shot saddle ring carbines, all must be unaltered. Will also buy any poor or broken rifles for parts. I will buy small and large amounts of wood and barrels and metal parts. QUICK CASH AIR MAIL. Write George Altman, 281 Balcon Ave., Bronx 65, New York City, N.Y.

WANTED: Correspondence for research purposes with owners of firearms marked TOBIN ARMS CO., TOBIN-SIMPLEX, etc. Also other Canadian made or marked pieces. Swap government manual for Mark II Ross rifle for any other issue, Colt 44/40 slide action good for parts. Horse trading in ammunition. Write A.M. Provick, Hazel-cliffe, Sask.

FOR SALE: Official Saskatchewan Gun Collectors Crests. I have a small supply of these crests on hand. Send money order for \$2.50 to F. Osipoff, 2665 Winnipeg St., Regina. Also have a small supply of GUN TALK, Volume I, No. 3 for sale. OLD format, price 50¢. Sorry, no other issues at this time.

WANTED: YOUR AD IN THIS SPACE. The way to get what you want and sell surplus items is to advertise. Do it in GUN TALK.

WANTED: Cartridges, will buy or trade for any amount. Single specimens for trade and sale. When in Regina, see me. F. Osipoff, 2665 Winnipeg St., Regina, Sask.

WANTED: Winchester rifles and Carbines of all types, also Winchester loading tools and bullet moulds. Single shot pistols of any type and make wanted.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: M. 1894 Winchester 30-30 rifle, \$20.00: 1893 Marlin 30-30 rifle \$15.00: Stevens Little Scout 14½, 22 Cal., \$5.00: Stevens Visible Loader 22 Cal. pump, \$15.00: No. 1 Mark 3, .303 British with bayonet and scabbard \$15.00: 1873 Springfield 45-70, \$25.00: Iver Johnson Revolver 32 Cal. with holster \$10.00: Eram-Erfurt German flare pistol, \$7.00. Write C. W. Bailey, Box 300, Climax, Sask.

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Mauser military pistol with detachable stock, calibre 7.65 mm, condition good. Wanted Springfield action. S. J. Kirby, 708-18th Ave. E., Regina, Sask.

➔ WINCHESTERS ➔

I HAVE AN ORDER FOR 100 WINCHESTERS FOR A NEW MOTEL. I WILL PAY THE HIGHEST PRICES FOR ANY WINCHESTERS, RIFLES, CARBINES, SINGLE SHOTS, ANYTHING. WILL TAKE PARTS OF GUNS, ACTIONS, BARRELS, STOCKS, WHAT HAVE YOU? ANYTHING IN WINCHESTER ARMS.

QUICK \$\$\$\$\$ CASH \$\$\$\$\$ BY RETURN MAIL. DESCRIBE GUN FIRST LETTER.



WRITE: Lloyd Dobrescu,
58 Caribou St. W.,
Moose Jaw, Sask.

WANTED: Hudson Bay Co. Trade Rifle, or North West Gun, Flint or percussion, in any condition, WRITE: Norman Nagel, Leader, Sask.

NOTICE: SEE FILER WITH THIS ISSUE FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON THE MUZZLE LOADING SHOOT.

NOTICE: FULL DETAILS OF THE ANNUAL GUN SHOW AND MEETING WILL BE SENT OUT TO ALL MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE SHOW. BE SURE TO ATTEND AND MAKE THIS SHOW THE BEST EVER. ELECTION OF OFFICERS TAKES PLACE AT THIS MEETING.

LET US HEAR YOUR COMMENTS ON "GUN TALK"

LEVER ARMS SERVICE

761 Dunsmuir St.
Vancouver, B. C..

Enfield Commando revolvers, cal 38 S & W, double action only \$17.50

German Mauser 98 rifle in 8 mm calibre. Made by Erfurt 1917. Action good barrel a little rough \$29.50.

#4 Lee Enfield converted to sporter by Parker Hale, ramp front sight, 5 shot magazine, re blued and a leather sling all for \$21.50.

Remington Sportsmen 58 with ventilated rib, and polychoke in 20 gauge. The stock has been shortened about 2" for a youth. A good buy at 100.00.

Husqvarna light weight rifle in Crown Grade cal 7 mm brand new and reduced to 99.50.

Noble 16 gauge shotgun in deluxe grade complete with variable choke and recoil pad. Brand new reduced to \$60.00

Hi Standard Supermatic 12 gauge shotgun, modified choke, automatic, Brand new reduced to 97.50.

Hi Standard Flite King pump shotgun, 12 gauge improved cylinder reduced to 61.00

Remington Model 725 ADL , cal 270, one only reduced to 99.50 from 149.50

Winchester Model 12 in 16 gauge reduced to 99.50.

455 Webley revolvers 6" barrel various grades from 12.00 to 15.00

Spanish double barrel 20 gauge shotgun by Francisco Bos reduced from 124.50 to 79.50.

Victorian rifle officers green cloth helmet complete with spike, chin scales and badge of the West Yorkshire Regiment . Quite good condition 32.50

Brand new Colt Single Action Army Buntline Model 12" barrel 45 cal, walnut grips reduced from 180.00 to 140.00

English double barrel percussion rifle by Wilkinson, about 70 calibre. Two groove rifling, complete with its belted ball mold. Some wear but a good shooter 120.00.

A good stock of Hi Standard, Smith & Wesson and Colt Handguns at pre increase prices. Trade -ins accepted on most guns.

WE ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING ON BEHALF OF A CLIENT A COLLECTION OR COLLECTIONS OF ANTIQUE FIREARMS PREFERABLY IN EXCESS OF FIFTY PIECES.

LEVER ARMS SERVICE

761 Dunsmuir St.

Vancouver, B. C.

We purchased quite a quantity of the scarce long lever Mark IV Martini Henry Rifles in 577/450 calibre, and graded most of them in price groups from 17.50 to 21.50.. Nearing the end of the pile we find a number of these guns that are not up to our regular standards. The actions are sound, all parts are there, some have cleaning rods missing, chips or dents in the wood, poor bores or rough metal work.. To sell these guns and offer collectors a good buy, we will offer them at 29.50 per lot of three.. The quantity is limited and will be sold only in lots or multiples of three.. As before the better grade Martini Henry Rifles are available at 17.50 ; 19.50 or 21.50 each.

Colt 45 Automatic Model of 1911, Commercial model in good condition, some slight wear to the bluing. \$50.00.

Greek Army Mannlicher Schoenauer Rifles, the famed Mannlicher bolt action with rotary spool magazine in cal 6.5 x 54. A few only at the low price of \$17.50

Soft nose hunting ammunition for these guns \$5.00 for 50 rounds.

Winchester Lee Bolt Action sporting rifle in cal 236 USN. It would appear that this may be one of the original sporter models and not a conversion. Stock good, no bluing on barrel and bore fair.. \$45.00

Marlin Model 1893 lever action rifle in cal 30-30. Octagonal barrel, pistol grip shotgun butt, take down model. Exterior about fair with barrel slightly rough \$40.00

Nazi Naval Officers Dirk, white plastic grip, brass scabbard, Good cond 25.00

Five German Medals, Knights Cross, Iron Cross etc. 10.00 the lot,

Winchester Model 94 carbine, cal 32 special in used very good condition 45.00

US Garand Rifle in cal 30-06, not a junker but made at Springfield Arsenal Used in good condition 80.00

US M-1 carbine in cal 30 M-1, brand new for \$99.50
30 M-1 ammunition available at \$6.00 for 50 rounds.

English double barrel hammer shotgun, 12 gauge, good condition but a decorator only .. Nicely engraved side locks and under lever 15.00

Cased presentation pair of Colt Frontier Scouts, nickel finish, walnut grips in fitted case. Used in excellent condition. 120.00 the pair

Colt Single Action Army revolver in new target model, cal 357 magnum 7½" barrel, adjustable target sights. 195.00

Colt 22 cal Buntline Scout, blue finish 9" barrel. Used in very good condition. 55.00.